

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A multilayer decoupling and sealing system (~~1~~), ~~in particular~~ for laying ceramic paving (~~10~~) by using a thin-bed method (~~12~~), with a sealing layer (~~4~~) that is impermeable to liquid, characterized in that above the sealing layer (~~4~~) that is impermeable to liquid that is of a non-woven anchoring material or a polymer sealing layer (~~4~~) with non-woven anchoring material arranged on both sides there is an anchoring layer (~~2, 3~~) formed from a lattice-type structural element for incorporating filler material (~~9~~) which is plastic when being applied and subsequently hardens within the anchoring layer (~~2, 3~~), a reinforcing layer (~~5~~) being arranged rigidly above the anchoring layer (~~2, 3~~), at least in sections.

Claim 2 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (~~1~~) as defined Claim 1, characterized in that the lattice-type structural element (~~2, 3~~) is formed from individual rods (~~7, 8~~) that are disposed to one another in the manner of a lattice and fixed to one another at the points of intersection (~~9~~) of the lattice.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (~~1~~) as defined in Claim 2, characterized in that the individual rods (~~7, 8~~) of the lattice-type structural element (~~2, 3~~) are of an essentially rectangular cross section.

Claim 4 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (~~1~~) as defined in ~~one of the Claims Claim 2 or 3~~, characterized in that the intersecting individual rods (~~7, 8~~) of the lattice-type structural element (~~2, 3~~), are so arranged that a first layer (~~2~~) consists of identically oriented individual rods (~~7~~) beneath a second layer of individual rods (~~8~~) that are disposed at an angle thereto and are in each instance oriented identically to one another.

Claim 5 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims~~ Claim 2 to 4, characterized in that the lattice-type structure of the individual rods (7,8) is in the form of a rhombus, a rectangle, or a square.

Claim 6 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims~~ Claim 4 or 5, characterized in that the individual rods (7,8) of the two layers (2,3) are welded to one another at the points of intersection (9) when under mechanical pressure.

Claim 7 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims~~ Claim 2 to 6, characterized in that the individual rods (7,8) of the lattice-type structural element (2,3) have edge areas that are slanted towards one another, at least at their points of intersection (9), thereby forming undercut sections on the individual rods (7,8).

Claim 8 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims~~ Claim 4 to 7, characterized in that a continuous vapour pressure equalizing layer (6) is interposed in each instance between the first and second layer (2,3) of individual rods (7,8).

Claim 9 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in Claim 8, characterized in that the vapour pressure equalizing layer (6) is formed by a polyethylene film.

Claim 10 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcing layer (5) is welded onto the anchoring layer (2).

Claim 11 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims Claim 1 to 9~~, characterized in that the reinforcing layer (5) is cemented onto the anchoring layer (2).

Claim 12 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims Claim 1~~, characterized in that the reinforcing layer (5) is in the form of a lattice-type textile, ~~preferably a glass fibre textile~~, to provide for secure anchoring with the filler material (12) that is to be incorporated on top of the decoupling and sealing system (1).

Claim 13 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims Claim 1~~, characterized in that the reinforcing layer (5) extends beyond the other layers (2, 3, 6) at least in individual edge areas (14) of the decoupling and sealing system (1) so as to create a transition to other sections of the decoupling and sealing system (1).

Claim 14 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims Claim 1~~, characterized in that the decoupling and sealing system (1) ~~can be~~ is laid so as to float on a substratum (15).

Claim 15 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims Claim 1 to 13~~, characterized in that the decoupling and sealing system (1) is laid rigidly, ~~preferably cemented~~, on a substratum (15).

Claim 16 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the Claims Claim 1 to 15~~, characterized in that the sealing layer (4) is formed from a polymer sealing layer, in particular from a polyethylene sealing layer.

Claim 17 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing, system (1) as defined in Claim 16, characterized in that the polymer sealing layer (4) has—at least on its underside—non-woven material (4) for anchoring to the substratum (15), ~~preferably for anchoring in the adhesive.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the sealing layer (4) extends beyond the other layers (2, 3, 5, 6) of the decoupling and sealing system (1), at least in individual edge areas (14), so as to create a transition area that is impermeable to liquids to other sections of the decoupling and sealing system (1).

Claim 19 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the thickness of the anchoring layer (2, 3) is between 2 and 6 mm.

Claim 20 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the overall thickness of the decoupling and sealing system (1) is between 2 and 8 mm.

Claim 21 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that after the incorporation of the filler material (12), the anchoring layer (2, 3) is essentially completely filled with the filler material (12) and the reinforcing layer (5) that is imbedded in the hardened filler material (12) performs a stiffening and reinforcing function with respect to mechanical loads applied from above.

Claim 22 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the decoupling and sealing system (1) ~~can be~~ is configured as a façade element that is ventilated from behind.

Claim 23 (currently amended): Decoupling and sealing system (1) as defined in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the decoupling and sealing system

~~(1) can be~~ is configured as a barrier element, in particular a barrier element that is of polystyrol.